

From: Andrew A. Meier
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I am opposed to the proposed settlement for in Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel the proposed settlement does not go far enough to redress Microsoft's abuse of it's monopoly status.

I am a software developer with over seven years experience in developing software for UNIX, Linux, Windows, and DOS. My chief complaint with the proposed settlement is that it does not stop Microsoft from it's monopoly abuses that most affect me.

Microsoft requires in the end user license agreement (EULA) for many of the products released and marketed from them that the user of the software not use the software on any competing operating system and in some products requires that the user not use the software to create software for competing operating systems.

Though I can run many programs designed for Microsoft Windows in my chosen operating system (Linux), the EULA included with those programs prevents me from doing so. To use the programs I am then forced to use a Microsoft operating system not for any technical reason but solely because of the anti-competitive incense agreement.

In addition, when I develop software, if I wish to use a Microsoft product to develop that software, the EULA prevents me from releasing that software for competing operating systems because the EULA contains a requirement to not distribute the "REDISTRIBUTABLES" required to run the software to competing operating systems.

Requirements like these are clearly anti-competitive. Therefore, any settlement or judgment in the Microsoft antitrust must strictly and expressly prohibit any requirements Microsoft may place in license agreements that affect how a user may use any Microsoft product.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew A. Meier
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